

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/EP2004/006624

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 F01D5/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 F01D F04D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 714 407 A (RUBINI ALFRED ET AL) 22 December 1987 (1987-12-22) column 6, line 15 - line 18; claims; figure 8	1,2,11, 13,14,19
X	US 3 745 629 A (PASK G ET AL) 17 July 1973 (1973-07-17) column 2, line 30 - line 64; figures 4,5	3,5, 15-20
X	US 2 738 950 A (PRICE NATHAN C) 20 March 1956 (1956-03-20) column 1, line 15 - line 18 column 2, line 5 - line 22 column 3, line 36 - line 60 figures ----- -/--	1-5,8, 10-15, 17,19,20

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

31 August 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

21/09/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

de Rooij, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP2004/006624

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/031564 A1 (KUSHIDA TSUNEHARU ET AL) 13 February 2003 (2003-02-13) paragraph '0021!; figure 4	1,2, 11-13
X	WO 02/055845 A (PIETRICOLA PAOLO) 18 July 2002 (2002-07-18) figure 8A	1,2
P,X	US 2004/091353 A1 (SHAHPAR SHAHROKHY ET AL) 13 May 2004 (2004-05-13) paragraph '0020!; figures 2-4,7b	1-7,10, 11, 13-15, 17,19
A	FR 2 784 421 A (GATE SPA) 14 April 2000 (2000-04-14) claims; figure 2	1,2,13, 14
A	US 6 341 942 B1 (SCHNEIDER MICHAEL H ET AL) 29 January 2002 (2002-01-29) claim 13; figure 3	3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/006624

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4714407	A	22-12-1987	GB 2164098 A DE 3530769 A1 FR 2574114 A1 JP 2753217 B2 JP 61066801 A	12-03-1986 20-03-1986 06-06-1986 18-05-1998 05-04-1986
US 3745629	A	17-07-1973	NONE	
US 2738950	A	20-03-1956	NONE	
US 2003031564	A1	13-02-2003	JP 2003056304 A	26-02-2003
WO 02055845	A	18-07-2002	IT BA20010002 A1 CA 2434213 A1 WO 02055845 A1 EP 1352156 A1 US 2004042897 A1	11-07-2002 18-07-2002 18-07-2002 15-10-2003 04-03-2004
US 2004091353	A1	13-05-2004	NONE	
FR 2784421	A	14-04-2000	IT 1303114 B1 DE 19948075 A1 FR 2784421 A1 GB 2345094 A , B	30-10-2000 25-05-2000 14-04-2000 28-06-2000
US 6341942	B1	29-01-2002	NONE	